

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A hot blown plastic film for chub packaging, consisting essentially of:

- a. at least one sealing layer, wherein each sealing layer consists essentially of a member selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene, ethylene ester copolymer, ethylene alpha olefin copolymer, polypropylene copolymer, polypropylene homopolymer, very low density polyethylene, polybutylene, styrene based copolymer, ionomer, ethylene methacrylic acid copolymer, and combinations thereof;
- b. at least one barrier layer, wherein each barrier layer consists essentially of polyvinylidene chloride polymer; and
- c. at least one intermediate layer, wherein each intermediate layer consists essentially of a member selected from the group consisting of ethylene ester copolymer, ethylene ester polymer, chemically modified polyethylene, chemically modified polyethylene, and combinations thereof, and
- d. wherein when the film has a thickness of about 67.5 to 68 microns, the film has an impact resistance of at least 450 grams, measured in accordance with ASTM D1709, but with the film chilled so that the film exhibits a measured surface temperature of the film is 0° C.

Claim 2 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said film consists essentially of two outer sealing layers.

Claim 3 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said film consists essentially of one barrier layer.

Claim 4 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said film consists essentially of two or more intermediate layers.

Claim 5 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said film consists essentially of 2 - 10 intermediate layers.

Claim 6 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said film consists essentially of 4 - 8 intermediate layers.

Claim 7 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said film consists essentially of 6 intermediate layers.

Claim 8 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said one or more intermediate layers consist essentially of one or more ethylene ester polymers.

Claim 9 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 8, characterized in that said one or more intermediate layers consist essentially of one or more members of selected from the group consisting of ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer, ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer, ethylene ethyl acrylate copolymer, ethylene methyl methacrylate copolymer, ethylene butyl acrylate copolymer and terpolymers of said polymers.

Claim 10 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 8, characterized in that said one or more intermediate layers consist essentially of an ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer.

Claim 11 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 8, characterized in that said one or more intermediate layers consist essentially of an ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer.

Claim 12 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said sealing layer consists essentially of an ethylene alpha-olefin copolymer that is a plastomer.

Claim 13 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said sealing layer consists essentially of an ethylene ester copolymer that is an ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer.

Claim 14 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said sealing layer consists essentially of an ethylene alpha-olefin copolymer that is a plastomer and an ethylene ester copolymer that is an ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer.

Claim 15 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said barrier layer consists essentially of one or more polyvinylidene chloride polymers selected from the group consisting of methyl acrylate-polyvinylidene chloride copolymer and vinylidene chloride copolymers.

Claim 16 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said barrier layer consists essentially of a methylacrylate-polyvinylidene chloride copolymer.

Claim 17 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said one or more intermediate layers consist essentially of one or more pigments.

Claim 18 (previously amended) A plastic film comprising:

- a. at least one sealing layer, comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene, ethylene ester copolymer, ethylene alpha olefin copolymer, polypropylene copolymer, polypropylene homopolymer, very low density polyethylene, polybutylene, styrene based copolymer, ionomer, ethylene methacrylic acid copolymer, and combinations thereof;
- b. at least one barrier layer, comprising polyvinylidene chloride polymer;
- c. at least one intermediate layer, comprising a member selected from the group consisting of ethylene ester copolymer, ethylene ester polymer, chemically modified polyethylene, chemically modified polypropylene, and combinations thereof.

characterized in that said one or more intermediate layers comprises a material comprising 70% by weight white TiO₂ pigment.

Claim 19 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said sealing layer(s) include(s) additives in suitable amounts.

Claim 20 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 19, characterized in that said sealing layer(s) include(s) as said additives slip agents polymer processing agents or a combination thereof.

Claim 21 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 19, characterized in that said sealing layer(s) include(s) said additives in an amount of 1 - 10 wt.-%.

Claim 22 (previously amended) A plastic film according to claim 19, characterized in that said additives are 5% by weight of erucamide and 10 % by weight of natural silica.

Claim 23 (previously amended) A plastic film, having the following structure:

- a. an outer heat sealing layer comprising:

74% by weight of an alpha-olefin plastomer copolymer, having a melting point of 99° C, a density of 0.902 g/ml and a melt index of 1.0 g/10 min;

24% by weight of an ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, having a melt flow index of 0.35 g/10 min and 14% vinyl acetate;

2% by weight of slip additives and polymer processing aids;

b. an adjacent intermediate layer, consisting of ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer, having 18% by weight vinyl acetate and a melt flow index of 0.7 g/10 min;

c. an adjacent intermediate layer, consisting of ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer, having 25% by weight vinyl acetate and a melt flow index of 2 g/10 min;

d. an adjacent intermediate layer, comprising 70% by weight of ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer, having 29% by weight methyl acrylate and a melt flow index of 3 g/10 min and 30% by weight of ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer, having 24% by weight methyl acrylate and a melt flow index of 0.6 g/10 min;

e. an adjacent barrier layer, consisting of methyl acrylate-polyvinylidene chloride copolymer,

f. an adjacent intermediate layer, comprising 70% by weight of ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer, having 29% by weight methyl acrylate and a melt flow index of 3 g/10 min and 30% by weight of ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer, having 24% by weight methyl acrylate and a melt flow index of 0.6 g/10 min;

g. an adjacent intermediate layer, consisting of ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer, having 25% by weight vinyl acetate and a melt flow index of 2 g/10 min;

h. an adjacent intermediate layer, consisting of ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer, having 18% by weight VA and a melt flow index of 0.7 g/10 min; and

i. an outer heat sealing layer, comprising:

74% by weight of an alpha-olefin plastomer copolymer, having a melting point of 99° C, a density of 0.902 g/ml and a melt index of 1.0 g/10 min;

24% by weight of an ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, having a melt flow index of 0.35 g/10 min and 14% by weight vinyl acetate;

2% by weight of slip additives and polymer processing aids.

Claim 24 (original) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said film is irradiated.

Claim 25 (original) A plastic film according to claim 1, characterized in that said film is a coextruded film.

Claim 26 (canceled)

Claim 27 (original) Process of chub packaging, comprising packaging a product with a film according to claim 1.

Claim 28 (original) A chub package made from the film of claim 1.